



POETRY OUT LOUD 2009 – '10

AC5 and Contra Costa County Office of Education team up to bring Poetry Out Loud, a national recitation contest open to county high school students for the 2009-'10 school year. Poetry Out Loud supports students in memorizing and reciting great poetry selected for its literary merit. It helps students master public speaking skills, build confidence and learn about their literary heritage. It is a free program of The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. High schools willing to participate in the contest are asked to designate an adult contact to communicate with AC5. Schools are to pick a representative to attend the county competition on February 7th at Acalanes High School in Lafayette. County winners will attend the state competition in March, and state winners go to the National Finals in Washington, D.C, in April 2010. Though it is designated to be part of the English curriculum, Poetry Out Loud can be implemented in any class, club, by a librarian or as an after school activity.

Poetry Out Loud materials and guidelines can be accessed through the Web site, <http://www.poetryoutloud.org>, or by contacting AC5. In addition, AC5 staff, commissioners and volunteers are available to participate in school competitions as judges, scorekeepers or other capacities. Schools that have committed to participation so far include California HS, Deer Valley, Dougherty Valley HS, Independence HS, Las Lomas HS, Miramonte HS, Monte Vista HS, Mt Diablo HS, Pittsburgh HS, Salesian HS and Venture HS. To enter your school in the 2009-'10

Poetry Out Loud competition or for information, contact: The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County
1236 Escobar St., Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 646-2278
ac5@ac5.org